

**Minutes of the Carlisle Board of Health
May 15, 2012**

Present: Board members Jeff Brem, Chairman, Bill Risso, Cathy Galligan, Donna Margolies, Vallabh Sarma; also present Linda Fantasia (Agent); Priscilla Stevens (Mosquito). Public attendees: Christopher Riddick, Mark Duffy.

The meeting was called to order by Brem at 7:00 p.m. at Carlisle Town Hall.

MINUTES – It was moved (Risso) and seconded (Galligan) to approve the minutes of 4/24/12 as amended. Motion passed 3-0-1 (Sarma had not arrived; Brem did not attend the meeting).

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Grants:

Wellness Grant – the contract was awarded to Community Preservation Associates Inc for \$23,000. They were the only bidder but had excellent credentials. The award is a continuation of the Mass in Motion state project. Acton, Carlisle and Concord applied as a region and were awarded \$26,500. Acton will act as the fiscal agent. Fantasia will represent the Board of Health and George Mansfield (Planning Administrator) will represent the Planning Board. Other Carlisle collaborators include Conservation and Recreation. The consultants will be in Carlisle in August.

CHNA15 mini-grant – application for a lyme disease public service announcement was submitted.

State Farm Grant – PHIT is considering applying for funding to purchase a web-based registry for individuals requiring additional assistance (IRAA).

CHNA – Carlisle has received a \$300 scholarship.

MAHB is offering \$500 mini-grants to small communities. The Board discussed the possibility of purchasing radon testing kits which residents could borrow from the Library. Galligan estimated a kit might cost \$150. The Board was concerned about getting good test results if residents were doing it themselves. Galligan also suggested putting money aside to pay for ads in the Mosquito. The Board agreed to do this.

PHIT met in Carlisle this month. A social worker from the VA hospital described new programs for veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. The Board agreed to help publicize these activities at Old Home Day.

Rep. Cory Atkins – held an open discussion forum with area officials. Fantasia attended and expressed concern that Lyme disease continues to be a major public health issue for Carlisle and surrounding communities. The problem is exacerbated due to lack of funding for research, no treatment centers in the state, and disparities in medical treatment. Atkins will consider doing a forum on lyme disease and is willing to meet with Carlisle's Population Health Clerkship students from UMMS in the fall. The students may visit Carlisle over the summer. The Board agreed to provide them with trail maps.

Blackboard Connect Training – held at town hall. The town is interested in upgrading to the new platform which is at no cost.

Lyme Disease Subcommittee – only one application has been submitted. Brem suggested checking the census for medical professionals and inviting them to join. The Board agreed that some occupations in Carlisle also put them at risk for the disease. It might be good to have a diverse representation on the subcommittee.

Vallabh Sarma (who had not been notified of the meeting) joined the Board. Sarma was elected to take the place of Mark Caddell who chose not to run again. The Board welcomed Sarma and apologized for the miscommunication. The town website will be updated.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS –Brem said the positions to be filled include: chairman, vice-chairman, clerk/treasurer. Because he has been chairman for the last three years, Brem suggested another member take the position. Board members agreed that the Board worked well under Brem and it is important to have

someone skilled and willing to be the “voice” of the Board at public events. Brem said that he is willing to continue as chair, especially since it is difficult for him to commit time for special projects or be on a subcommittee. Risso said he is willing to be vice-chair and a back up contact for the staff should Brem be unavailable. Galligan agreed to be the clerk/treasurer. Margolies and Sarma would like more time on the Board before taking an officer position. The Board then proceeded with nominations for the elected offices:

Margolies nominated Jeff Brem as Chairman for one year. No other nominations were received. Nominations were closed. The Board unanimously voted to elect Brem as Chairman.

Margolies nominated Bill Risso for Vice-Chairman for one year. No other nominations were received. Nominations were closed. The Board unanimously elected Risso as vice-chairman.

Margolies nominated Catherine Galligan as Clerk/Treasurer. No other nominations were received. Nominations were closed. The Board unanimously elected Galligan as clerk/treasurer.

BILLS – Fantasia asked about attending the MHOA workshop on Food Protection. The Board agreed. Other bills included approval of a contract in the amount of \$3000 to do the Municipal Inventory System. The Board has hired Robert Donnelly to do the inventory. This is a Region 4A grant funded project. Bills also included an invoice from Phelps Food Service for inspections and TCG invoices for March and April.

It was moved (Risso) and seconded (Galligan) to approve the bills as presented. Motion passed 5-0-0.

FY12 – the budget is still balanced although the Board is concerned about a possible TB management case. If there are nursing costs, the Board will notify the Town Administrator and the Finance Committee. The nursing budget has been drastically reduced over the last three years. The Board does not feel it represents the actual costs of nursing hours.

36 LOG HILL ROAD – Christopher Riddick, owner/landlord, appeared before the Board. The Board had required his attendance at every meeting until the failed system at the property was replaced. Riddick said that the first date he could get Acton Concord to do the Title 5 Inspection is 5/23/12. The report will be submitted to the Board. Riddick said he has been working on getting the septic design engineered and submitted. The design is a Perc-Rite system. The designer, Jeff Hannaford of Norse Environmental Designs, has been working with the vendor, Oakson Inc., on the design specifications. Riddick said the plan should be submitted at the end of the week. A public hearing on the waivers would be held on 6/19/12. The Board noted that abutters need to be notified 10 days prior by certified mail. Riddick thought the new system would be installed by the end of July. Since Riddick appears to be making progress on having the failed system replaced, the Board agreed that he would not need to attend the next meeting on 6/5/12 as previously ordered. A written status report would be sufficient. The Board will expect to open the public hearing on 6/19/12.

GLEASON LIBRARY – Priscilla Stevens, a Library Trustee, updated the Board on the septic problems. The Trustees have hired Stamski & McNary to test and inspect the system. The assessment is being done on 5/16/12. They will have a report and recommendations to the Trustees for their 5/24/12 meeting. The system is functioning so there is no emergency. The Trustees have asked for a cost analysis of replacing the existing system compared to tying into the school’s waste water treatment plant. Stevens said the Trustees expect to present their decision to the Board on 6/5/12. The Board was unclear about the kind of testing to be done since any testing for a system must be witnessed by an agent for the Board. Fantasia will check with Rob Frado in the morning to see if he has been contacted.

GREAT BROOK FARM ICE CREAM STAND – Mark Duffy, Great Brook Farm leaseholder, appeared before the Board. Duffy explained that the environmental police acting on orders of the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) closed the ice cream stand the previous Friday because of a failure to obtain the necessary permits for the renovation of the old milking barn. The Board was advised of this action on 5/13/12 by Ellen Fitzgibbons of DCR. Fantasia had provided DCR with a copy of the latest food inspection report which gave

high marks for the ice cream stand operation. This is the only permit issued by the Board. The Board agreed that the renovation was not a local health issue. Other than the ice cream stand, the state is its own permitting authority. The Board did not agree with the action taken by DCR – closing the ice cream stand with little notice. Duffy explained that he has been running the Farm for 26 years and worked well with DCR, formerly DEM. He had received a letter the previous week about unapproved renovations and that he must shut the stand down. Historically repairs have been left to the tenant so he was confused about needing a permit. Taking such aggressive action seemed extreme. The basis for the immediate closure was the possibility of health risks created by renovating the old building. Duffy said there was a small amount of friable material at the far end of the old milk barn, but nothing in the newly renovated space. The only change involved expanding the seating area. It is always difficult when doing new construction in an old building. Had he been aware of the permitting process, he would have acted on it.

Duffy had spoken with the DCR Commissioner about the closure. Duffy agreed that the only local permit required was to operate the ice cream stand. The most recent inspection in April was satisfactory. He is concerned that although the closure had nothing to do with the food product, it will give the perception of a problem which may cost him customers. Duffy said the entire process was misadvised: first the operation was shut down and now the state is looking for a problem. According to the state inspectors, Building Code requirements were not met. Duffy said he is willing to comply with the Code and obtain any necessary permits.

The Board agreed that it appeared the state over-reacted. Great Brook Farm has been an asset to the town. There have not been any issues related to livestock, farming or the public water supply onsite.

Septic Loan Program – Town meeting voted to approve another \$200,000 under the state revolving fund. The Board had met with the Selectmen prior to town meeting. The Selectmen voted to recommend the article. The Finance Committee did not support it. The Board has agreed to review the current requirements to see if changes need to be made.

Middlesex School Pollution Complaint – the Board discussed a third complaint from Susan Bondurant of Autumn Lane about black smoke issuing from the smokestack at Middlesex on 5/5/12. The Board agreed that based on the information provided by the school and the report from Frank Rounds Co. the intermittent release appears to be part of the normal boiler operation as the system purges during periods of less use. It does not appear that this event equaled the pollution caused by a system malfunction last December. The Board is aware of Bondurant's concerns and will continue to monitor the situation. The Board noted that the system is scheduled to be replaced with natural gas by the summer of 2013 which should resolve the issue.

Hazardous Waste Collection – The Board received a report from Bobby Lyman who worked the collection; Board of Health included Bill Risso, Mark Caddell and Vallabh Sarma. There were no problems. A total of 100 cars went through the collection: 33 full and 67 half. This compares to 104 last year: 22 full, 82 half. A CCHS student earned community volunteer points.

Medical Reserve Social – to be held in June from 4-8. An ice cream social is planned to thank current volunteers and recruit new ones. The event will be grant funded.

Septic Design Reviews: Fantasia wanted the Board to be aware of the following proposed designs:

41 Skelton Road – The design complies with local and state regulations but includes a "future" guest house. Currently the town has a policy of not granting building permits for guest houses with kitchens. The Board agreed that this was a zoning issue. The Board is only considering the septic design which is intended to replace a failed system. A note will be included to the approval letter that permit does not cover zoning related issues. A 100' distance from system to well should be 100'.

125 Meadowbrook Road – Although the house has only ten rooms, a six bedroom design has been submitted. There are no plans to renovate the house by the current owner. The Board agreed that there is nothing to prevent an applicant from building a larger system.

Local Nitrogen Loading Policy – Risso had discussed Carlisle soils and percolation rates with Rob Frado. Risso thinks it would be difficult to produce a nitrogen limitation table using soil characteristics land area. He would prefer using a second structure on a lot as the trigger. Although the drinking water standard for nitrogen is 10 mg/L, action level for private wells is 5 mg/L. Risso had talked with Steve Hinton of the Water Quality Subcommittee. Hinton likes “0” or the same as natural. The Board suggested Risso prepare a short memo and send it to DEP for feedback.

Banta-Davis Housing Project – Brem had been asked to attend the committee meeting to explore locating housing on Banta Davis. The development would tie into the school’s waste water treatment plan. Risso questioned the available septic capacity for such a project. The engineering calculations prepared by the committee assumed 100% capacity, but DEP has a long standing policy that usage cannot exceed 85% capacity of the WWTP. Risso felt this needed to be sorted out before continuing. The Board also noted that the committee had met with DEP and the Board was not copied on the ensuing correspondence. The Board will ask to be included in all future correspondence since the WWTP is under the Board’s purview.

Meeting unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Fantasia, Recorder